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Security Council

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Identical letters dated 18 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I am writing to alert you to the barrage of rockets launched at Israel in recent days. Since 31 January 2014, eight rockets have been fired from the Gaza Strip towards the towns and cities of southern Israel. As I write this, 3.5 million Israelis live under the constant threat of these attacks.

Israel holds Hamas responsible for the escalation in violence, which threatens to further destabilize the Gaza Strip. Since Hamas took control of Gaza, the region has become a base used by terrorists to launch rockets, attempt kidnappings and attack Israeli citizens.

Instead of demonstrating a commitment to bettering the life of the Palestinian people, Hamas is demonstrating its unwavering commitment to terrorism. I call on the Council to unanimously and unequivocally condemn the violence perpetrated by the Hamas terrorist organization.

Israel has thus far shown considerable restraint, but it will not allow its citizens to be the ongoing victims of attacks and will continue to take all necessary measures to protect its population.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ron **Prosor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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